CLAIMS

1.   An apparatus for controlling the transmission energy of signals received
2   from a remote transmitter, comprising:

receiver for measuring an energy of the signals to produce an energy
4   indication; and

power control processor for generating a signal quality metric based on
6   said measuring, generating closed loop power control commands in
accordance with a comparison between the signal quality metric and a variable
8   threshold, making a determination that the remote transmitter is not responding
to the power control commands in a predetermined fashion, and suspending an
10   updating of the variable threshold in accordance with said determination.

2.   The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said signal quality metric is a signal to
2   interference ratio, and wherein said power control processor comprises a signal
to interference ratio computation element for generating said signal to
4   interference ratio based on the energy indication.

3.   The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a demodulator for
2   demodulating the signals and measuring demodulated symbol energies from
symbols residing in said signals, and providing said demodulated symbol
4   energies to said power control processor, wherein said power control processor
generates said signal quality metric based on said demodulated symbol
6   energies.

4.   The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a decoder for decoding
2   frames residing in said signals and generating frame error information, and
providing said frame error information to said power control processor, and
4   wherein said power control processor makes said determination based on said
frame error information.

5.   The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a decoder for decoding

2   frames residing in said signals and generating a decoder metric, and providing

said decoder metric to said power control processor, and wherein said power

4   control processor makes said determination based on said decoder metric.

6.   The apparatus of claim 1 further comprising a decoder for decoding

2   frames residing in said signals and generating a decoder metric and frame error

information, and providing said decoder metric and frame error information to

4   said power control processor, and wherein said power control processor makes

said determination based on said decoder metric and frame error information.

7.   A method of controlling a transmission energy of signals received from a

2   remote transmitter, comprising:

measuring an energy of the signals to produce an energy indication;

4   generating a signal quality metric based on said measuring;

generating closed loop power control commands in accordance with a

6   comparison between the signal quality metric and a variable threshold;

making a determination that the remote transmitter is not responding to

8   the power control commands in a predetermined fashion; and

suspending an updating of the variable threshold in accordance with said

10   determination.

8.   The method of claim 7 wherein said signal quality metric is a signal to

2   interference ratio.

9.   The method of claim 7 further comprising demodulating symbols residing

2   in the signals to produce symbol energies, wherein said generating said signal

quality metric is based on said demodulated symbol energies.

10.   The method of claim 7 further comprising decoding frames residing in

2   the signals to produce frame error information, wherein said making a

determination is based on said frame error information.

11.   The method of claim 7 further comprising decoding frames residing in the signals to produce a decoder metric, wherein said making a determination is based on said decoder metric.

12.   The method of claim 7 further comprising decoding frames residing in the signals to produce a decoder metric and frame error information, wherein said making a determination is based on said decoder metric and frame error information.

13.   The method of claim 7 wherein said making a determination comprises detecting a gating of the transmission energy of the signals based on said energy indication.

14.   The method of claim 7 wherein said making a determination comprises recognizing an absence of increase in said energy indication in response to at least one of said closed loop power control commands.